AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the treatment ~~or prophylaxis~~ of arthritis in a subject, said method comprising administering to the subject an effective amount of an agent which inhibits the activity or level of expression of granulocyte-colony stimulating factor (G-CSF) ~~or a functional or structural homolog thereof~~ or granulocyte-colony stimulating factor receptor (G-CSFR) ~~or a structural or functional homolog thereof and/or which reduces the level of expression of a gene encoding said G-CSF or G-CSFR~~.

2. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the arthritis is chronic inflammatory arthritis.

3. (Original) The method of Claim 1 wherein the condition is rheumatoid arthritis (RA).

4. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the arthritis is collagen-induced arthritis (CIA).

5. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the subject is ~~an animal or avian species~~a mammal.

6-7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) The method of Claim[[7]]5 wherein the ~~primate~~mammal is a human.

9-10. (Cancelled)

11. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~agent~~antagonist is an antibody ~~raised against~~to G-CSF or G-CSFR.

12. (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

13. (Original) The method of Claim 11 wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

14. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~agent~~antagonist is a soluble G-CSFR or a ~~functional homolog, analog or derivative~~G-CSF-binding fragment thereof.

15-17. (Cancelled)

18. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~agent~~antagonist is ~~a nucleic acid~~DNA or RNA and comprises a sense or antisense polynucleotide sequence or a genetic sequence encoding G-CSF or G-CSFR.

19-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Currently amended) A ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition for treating arthritis comprising an ~~agent~~antagonist which inhibits the activity or level of expression of G-CSF or G-CSFR ~~in a subject and/or which reduces the level of expression of the gene encoding said G-CSF or G-CSFR in a subject~~, together with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent.

23-28. (Cancelled)

29. (Currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition of Claim 22 wherein the ~~agent~~antagonist is an antibody ~~raised against~~to G-CSF or G-CSFR.

30. (Currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition of Claim 29 wherein the

antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

31. (Currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition of Claim 29 wherein the antibody is a polyclonal antibody.

32. (Currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition of Claim 22 wherein the ~~agent~~ antagonist is soluble G-CSFR ~~or a functional homolog, analog or derivative~~or a G-CSF-binding fragment thereof.

33-35. (Cancelled)

36. (Currently amended) The ~~pharmaceutical~~ composition of Claim 22 wherein the ~~agent~~ antagonist is ~~a nucleic acid~~DNA or RNA and comprises a sense or antisense polynucleotide sequence or a genetic sequence encoding G-CSF or G-CSFR.

37-45. (Cancelled)